THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL MESSAGE **ON PANAMA CANAL**

Gives Results of His Observations While on Tour of Inspection to Congress.

THE WORK IS BEING PUSHED

Perfection of Sanitary Conditions in Canal Zone Has Taken Much Time.

He Found But Little Ground for Complaints and Refutes Statements of Critics-Calls Some Writers "Slanderers and Liars" - Approves of Type and Route of Canal.

The following is the text of President toosevelt's special message to congress in the subject of the Panama canal: to the Senate and House of Representa-

Roosevelt's special message to congress on the subject of the Fanama canal:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In the month of November I visited the Isthmus of Panama, going over the Canal Zone with considerable care; and also visited the cities of Panama and Colon, which are not in the zone or under the United States flag, but as to which the United States flag, but as to which the United States government, through its agents, exercises control for certain sanitary purposes. I chose the month of November for my visit partly because it is the rainest month of the year, the month in which the work goes forward at the greatest disadvantage, and one of the two months which the medical department of the French Canal company found most unhealthy.

Following the introduction to the message the president gives a resume of his programme during the days he was on the isthmus, and then says:

At the outset I wish to pay tribute to the amount of work done by the French Canal company under very difficult circumstances. Many of the buildings they put up were excellent and are still in use, though, naturally, the houses are now getting out of repair and are being used as dwellings only until ofther houses can be built, and much of the work they did in digging has been of direct and real benefit. This country has never made a better lavestment than the \$40,00,000 which it padd to the French company for work and betterments, including especially the Fanama railroad.

An inspection on the ground at the height of the rainy seasest served to convince me of the wisdom of congress in refusing to adopt either a high-level or a sea-level canal. There seems to be a universal agreement among all people competent to judge that the Panama route, the one actually chosen, is much superior to both the Nicaragua and Darien routes.

Darien routes.

Preliminary Work Being Done.

The wisdom of the canal management has been shown in nothing more clearly than in the way in which the foundations of the work have been laid! To have yielded to the natural impatience of ill-informed outsiders and begun all kinds of experiments in work prior to a thorough sanitation of the istimus, and to a fairly satisfactory working out of the problem of getting and keeping a sufficient lator supply, would have been disastroms. The various preliminary measures had to be taken first; and these could not be taken so as to allow us to begin the real work of construction prior to January 1 of the present year. It then became necessary to have the type of the canal decided, and the only delay has been the necessary delay until the Eth day of June, the date when the congress definitely and wisely settled that we should have an Si-foot level canal. Immediately after that the work began in hard earnest and has been continued with increasing vigor ever since; and it will continue so to progress in the future. Who, a the contracts are let the cenditions will be such as to insure a constantly increasing amount of perfermance. Preliminary Work Being Done.

Successful Sanitation.

The first great problem to be solved, upon the solution of which the success of the rest of the work depended, was the problem of sanitation. This was from the outset under the direction of Dr. W. C. Gorgas, who is to be made a full member of the commission. It must be expensely that his work was not mere open the solution of which the success of the rest of the work depended, was the problem of sanitation. This was from the outset under the direction of Dr. W. C. Gorgas, who is to be made a full member of the commission. It must be remembered that his work was not mere sanitation as the term is understood in our ordinary municipal work. Throughout the rose and in the two cities of Panama and Colon, in addition to the sanitation work proper, he has had to do all the work that the Marine hospital service does as regards the nation, that the health department officers do in the various states and cities, and that Col. Waring did in New York when he cleaned its streets. The results have been astounding. The inthinus had been a byward for deadly unhealthfulness. Now, after two years of our occupation the conditions as regards stokness and the death rate compare favorably with reasonably healthy. localities in the United States. Especial care has been devoted to minumizing the risk due to the presence of those species of mosquitnes which have been found to propastic mainrial and yellow fevers. In all the settlements, the little temporary towns or cities compared of the white and black employee, which grow up here and there in the trule jumple as the needs of the work dictate, the utmost care is searched to keep the conditions healthy. Everywhere are to be seen the drainage dictates which in removing the water have removed the breeding places of the mosquitoes, which the mosquitoes and the salvations, thus destroying the places in which the mosquitoes and certain of mesquito dones to the houses, nor to speak of the careful migration that has some on in all infected houses, donoties suppose in which the mosquitoes and certain of mesquito servens around the plazass, and of mescreting a settlement of unmarried which mescreting a settlement of unmarried which mescreting a settlement of unmarr

complained of, and that the trouble was mainly due to the extrame difficulty, and often impossibility, of providing in every place for the constant increase in the numbers of employes. Generally the provision is made in advance, but it is not possible that this should always be the case; when it is not there ensues a period of time during which the conditions are unsatisfactory, until a remedy can be provided; but I never found a case where the remedy was not being provided as speedily as possible.

Improvements in Cities.

can be provided; but I never found a case where the remedy was not being provided as speedily as possible.

Improvements in Cities.

The sanitation work in the cities of Panama and Colon has been just as important as in the zone itself, and in many respects much more difficult, because it was necessary to deal with the already existing population, which naturally had scant sympathy with revolutionary changes, the value of which they were for a long time not able to perceive. In Colon the population consists largely of colored laborests who, having come over from the West Indies to work on the canal. Abandon the work and either take to the brush or lie idle in Colon itself; thus peopling Colon with the least destrable among the imported laborers, for the good and steady men of course-continue at the work. Yet astonishing progress has been made in both cities. In Panama 30 per cent of the streets that are to be paved at all are already paved with an excellent brick pavement laid in heavy concrete, a few of the streets being still in process of paving. The lower and water services in the city are of the most modern by gionic type, some of the service having just been completed.

In Colon the conditions are peculiar and it is as regards Colon that most of the very bitter completed.

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The clamber of the service having furnish shallow, natural reservoirs of low-living frequent plants. One-half of the surface of the island is covered with water at high tide, the average height of the land being places for every variety of mosquito, and the ground either in the streets or on the building sites, so that the entire surface was practically a mage the sait water on both sides, and into these the points are already

Unjust Criticism.

Care and forethought have been exercised by the commission, and nothing has reflected more credit upon them than their refusal either to go ahead too fast or to be deterred by the fear of criticism from not going ahead fast enough. It is curious to note the fact that many of the most severe critics of the commission criticise them for precisely opposite reasons, some complaining hitterly that the work is not in a more advanced condition, while the others complain that it has been rushed with such haste that there has been insufficient preparation for the hygiene and comfort of the employes. As a matter of fact neither criticism is just. It would have been impossible to go quicker than the commission has gone, for such quickness would have meant insufficient preparation. On the other hand, to refuse to do anything until every possible future continuency had been met would have caused wholly unwarranted delay. The right course to follow was exactly the course which has been followed Every reasonable preparation was made in advance, the hygienic conditions in especial being made as nearly perfect as possible; while on the other hand there has been no timid refusal to push forward the work because of inability to anticipate every possible emergency, for, of course, many detects can only be shown by the working of the system in a crual practice.

Inasmuch as so many both of the white Unjust Criticism.

can only be shown by the working of the system in actual practice.

Inasmuch as so many both of the white and colored employes have brought their families with them, schools have been established, the school service being under Mr. O'Connor. For the white pupils white American teachers are employed; for the colored pupils there are also some white American teachers, one Spanish teacher, and one colored American teacher, most of them being colored teachers from Jamaica. Harbados and St. Lucia. The schoolrooms were good, and it was a pleasant thing to see the pride that the teachers were taking in their work and their pupils.

Care of Employes.

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Care of Employes.

Next in importance to the problem of sanitation, and indeed now of equal importance, is the problem of securing and caring for the mechanics, laborers and other employes who actually do the work on the canal and the railroad. This great task has been under the control of Mr. Jackson Smith, and on the whole has been well done. At present there are some 5,000 white employes and some 19,000 colored employes on the isthmus. I went over the different places where the different kinds of employes were working! I think I saw representatives of every type both at their work and in their homes, and I conversed with probabily a couple of hundred of them all told, choosing them at random from exercially to present certain grievances olmost invariably expressed far greater centent and satisfaction with the conditions than did those who called to make complaint.

content and satisfaction with the conditions than did those who called to make complaint.

Nearly 5,000 of the white employes had come from the United States. No man can see these young, vigorous memeregetically doing their duty without a thrill of pride in them as Americans. They represent on the average a high class. Doubless to congress the wages that them will seem high, but as a matter of fact the only general complaint which I found had any real busis among the complaints made to me upon the isthmas was that, owing to the peculiar surroundings, the cost of living, and the distance from home, the wages were really not as high as they should be. In fact, dimost every man I spoke to fell that he ought to be receiving more money—a view, however, which the average man who stays at home in the thirted States probably likewise holds as regards himself. I append figures of the wages paid, so that the congress can lodge the matter for itself. Later I shall corfar on the subject with certain representative labor men here in the United States, as well as going over with Mr. Stevens, the comparative wages paid on the zone and at home, and I may then communicate my findings to the canal communicate my findings to the ca

Chinese and Other Labor.

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Of the 19,000 or 29,000 day laborers employed on the canal a few hindred are Spaniards. These do excellent work. Their foreman told me that they did twice as well as the West indian laborers. They keep healthy and no difficulty is experienced with them in any way. Some Italian laborers are also employed in connection with the drilling. As might be expected, with labor as ligh priced, as a present in the United States, it has not so far proved practicable to get my ordinary laborers from the United States. The American wage workers on the isthmus are the highly paid-skilled mechanics of the types mentanced previously. A steady effort is being made to secure Italians and expectably to procure more Spaniards. being made to accure Italians, and especially to procure more Spaniards, because of the very satisfactory results that have come from their employment and their numbers will be accused as far as possible. It has not proced possible, however, to get them in anything like the numbers acreded for the work, and from present appearance we shall in the main have to rely, far the ordinary unskilled work, partly upon colored laborers from the West Indios, martly upon the manual processes in the continues labor, it certainly ought to be consecsury to point out that the

American workingman in the United States has no concern whatever in the question as to whether the rough work on the Isthmus, which is performed by allens in any event, is done by allens from one country with a black skin or by allens from another country with a yellow skin. Our business is to dig the canal as efficiently and as quickly as possible; provided always that nothing is done that is inhumane to any laborers, and nothing that interferes with the wages of or lowers the standard of living of our own workinen. Having in view this principle, I have arranged to try several thousand Chinese laborers. This is desirable both because we must try to find out what laborers are most efficient, and, furthermore, because we should not leave ourselves at the mercy of any one type of foreign labor. At present the great bulk of the unskilled labor on the isthmus is done by West India negroes, chiefly from Jamaica, Barbados, and the other English possessions. One of the governors of the lands in question has shown an unfriedly dispositien to our work and has thrown obstateles in the way of our getting the labor needed; and it is highly undesirable to give any outsiders the impression, however ill founded, that they are Indispensable and can dictate terms to us.

The West India laborers are fairly, but only fairly, satisfactory. Some of the men do very well indeed; the better class, who are to be found as foremen, as skilled mechanics, as policemen, as skilled mechanics, as policed on complete or the season of these complaints they themselves contradicted one a norther In all cases where the complaints was as to their restument by any individual it proved on examinat American workingman in the United

work of Construction.

The work is now going on with a vigor and efficiency pleasant to witness. The three big problems of the canni are the La Hoom dams, the Gatun dam, and the Culchra cut. The Culchra cut must be made, anyhow; but of course changes as to the dams, or at least as to the locks adjacent to the dams, may still occur. The La Boca dams offer no particular problem, the bottom material being so good that there is a practical certainty, not merely as to what can be achieved, but as to the time of achievement. The Gatun dam offers the most serious problem which we have to solve; and yet the ablest men on the isthmus believe that this problem is certain of solution along the lines proposed although of course, it necessitates great toil, energy, and intelligence, and although equally, of course, there will be some little risk in connection with the work. The risk arises from the fact that some of the material near the bottom is not so good as could be desired. If the huge earth dam now contemplated is thrown across from one foothil to the other we will have what is practically a low, broad, mountain ridge behind which will rise the inland lake. This artificial mountain swill probably show less sepage, that is, will have greater restraining capacity than the average natural mountain range. The exact locality of the locks at this dam—as at the other dams—is now being determined. In April next Secretary Taft, with three of the ablest engineers will make the final and conclusive examinations as 30 the cancer site for secleck, Mennwhile the work is going abend without a break.

The Culebra cut does not offer such great risks; that is, the dams liable to occur from occasional land slipe will not represent what may be called major disasters. The work will merely call for latelity of the country—Messrs, Noble. Stearns and Ripley—will visit the isthmus, and the three engineers will make the final and conclusive examinations as 30 the cancer site for secleck, Mennwhile the work is going abend which most labor will

In Culebra Cut.

The main work is now being done in the Culcipra cut. It was striking and impressive to see the hige steam shovels in full play, the dumping trains carrying away the rock and earth they dislodged. The implements of French excavating machinery, which often stand a little way from the line of work, though of excellent construction, look like the veriest toys when compared with these new steam shovels, just as the French dumping cars seem like toy cars when compared with the long trains of huge cars, dumped by steam plows, which are now in use. This represents the enormous advance that has been made in machinery during the past quarter of a century. No doubt a quarter of a century. No doubt a quarter of a century ence this new machinery discarded. We still ave in use a few of the more modern, but not most product in the countries which hold but 12 yards of earth. They can be employed on certain lines with sharp curves. But the recent cars hold from it to 30 yards apiece, and instead of the old clumpy included of inhoading them, a steam plow is drawn from end to end of the whole vestibuled train, thus impersative committing labor. In the rainy reason the steam shovels can do but little in dirt, but they work steadily in rock and in the larger ground. There were some 2 at work dirring the time 1 was on the isthmus and their tremendous power and efficiency were most impressive. The main work is now being done in he Culebra cut. It was striking and

New Records for Excavation.

New Records for Excavation.

As soon as the type of came was decided this work legan in good earnest. The rainy season will shortly be over and then there will be an immense increase in the amount taken out; but even during the last three months, in the rainy season, steady progress is shown by the figures. In Aguest, 21,200 cubbe yards, and in toctober, 22,500 cubb yards, in September, 29,500 cubb yards, in October new records were established for the output of individual shovels as well as for the tonnings haul of individual locomotives. I hope to see the growth of a healthy spirit of emilation between the different shovel and locomotive crews, instance a spirit as has grown on our battle ships to tween the different gun crews in matters of marksmanning. Pansing through the cut the amount of new work can be seen at a glanne. In one place the entire side of a hill had been taken out recently by 27 tons of irmanile, which were expleded at one blast. At another place I was given a presidential salute of 21 charges of dynamite. On the top moth of the Culebra cut the prism is now as wide as it will be: all tobit, the canal bed at this point has now been sunk about 220 feet below what it originally was It will have to be sunk about 120 feet farther. Throughout the cut the drilling blasting, shoveling and hauling are going on with constantly increasing energy, the huge shuvels being persend up, as if they were mountain howitzers, into the most unlikely looking places, where they eat their way into the hillsides.

Critics and Doubting Thomases.

Critics and Doubting Thomases. It is not only natural, but inevitable, that a work as gigantic as this which has been undertaken on the inthing should arouse every species of hostility and criticism. The conditions are so new and so trying, and the work so vast, that it would be absolutely out of the question that mistakes should not be made. Checks will occur. Unforeseen difficulties will arise. From time to time assemingly well-settled plans will have to be changed on the task. After awhile the number will be doubted. In such a mujuitude it is inevitable that there should be here and there a scoundred. Very many of the poorer class of laborers lack the mental development to protect themselves against either the rascality of others or their own folly, and it is not possible for human wisdom to device a Critics and Doubting Thomases.

plan by which they can invariably be protected. In a place which has been for ages a byword for uninealitifulness, and with so large a congregation of strangers suddenly put down and set to hard work there will now and then be outbreaks of disease. There will now and then be outbreaks of disease. There will now and then be soutbreaks of disease. There will now and then be shortcomings in administration; there will be unlooked-for accidents to delay the excavation of the cut or the building of the dams and locks. Each such incident will be entirely natural, and, even though serious, ho one of them will mean more than a little extra delay or trouble. Yet each, when discovered by sensation mongers and retailed to timid folk of little faith, will serve as an excuse for the belief that the whole work is being badly managed. Experiments will continually be tried in housing, in hygiere, in street repairing, in dredging and in disguing earth and rock. Now and then an experiment will be a failure, and among those who hear of it, a certain proportion of doubting Thomases will at once believe that the whole work is a failure. Doubtless here and there some minor rascality will be ancovered; but as to this, I have to say that after the most painstaking inquiry! have been unable to find a single reputable person who had so much as heard of any serious accusations affecting the honesty of the commission or of any responsible officer under it. I append a letter dealing with the most serious charge, that of the ownership of lors in Colon; the charge was not advanced by a reputable man, and is utterly base-less. It is not too much to say that the whole atmosphere of the commission of spoils politics in connection with it.

I have investigated every complaint brought to me for whileh there seemed to be any shallow of foundation. In two or three cases, all of which I have indicated in the containion that here was foundation for the commission in the respect complaints there we have the commission had already found out and correcte

Slanders and Libelers.

Slanders and Libelers.

So much for honest criticism. There remains an immense amount of as reckless slander as has ever been published. Where the slanderers are of foreign origin I have no concern with them. Where they are Americans. I feel for them the heartiest contempt and indignation: because, in a spirit of wanton dishonesty and malice, they are trying to interfere with and hamper the execution of, the greatest work of the kind ever attempted, and are seeking to bring to maught the efforts of their countrymen to put to the credit of America one of the giant feats of the ages. The outrageous accusations of these slanderers constitute a gross libel upon a body of public servants who, for trained intelligence, expert ability, high character and devotion to duty have never been excelled anywhere. There is not a man among those directing the work on the isthmus who has obtained his position on any other basis than merit alone, and not one who has used his position in any way for his own personal or pecuniary advantage.

Plan to Build by Contract.

Plan to Build by Contract.

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After most careful consideration we have decided to let out most of the work by contract, if we can come to satisfactory terms with the contractors. The whole work is of a kind suited to the peculiar genius of our people, and our people have developed the type of contractor heat fitted to grappie with it. It is of course much better to do the work in large part by contract than to do it all by the government, provided it is possible on the one hand to secure to the contractor. A sufficient remnueration to make it worth while for responsible contractors of the best kind to undertake the work; and provided on the other hand it can be done on terms thich will not give an excessive profit the contractor at the expense of government. After much congleration the plan already promultied by the secretary of war was adopted. This plan in its essential features was drafted after careful and thorough study and consideration, by the chief engineer. Mr. Stevens, who, while in the employment of Mr. Hill, the president of the Great Northern railroad, had personal experience of this very type of contract. Mr. Stevens then submitted the plan to the chairman of the commission, Mr. Stevens then submitted the plan to the commission. In section of the commission of the commission of the commission of the commission of the commission. The stevens then submitted the plan to the commission to see that all legal difficulties were met. He then submitted conject of the plan to both Secretary Taft and myself. Secretary Taft submitted it to some of the best coursel at the New York bar, and after wards I went over it very carefully. tary Taft and myself. Secretary Taft submitted it to some of the best counsel at the New York bar, and afterwards I went over it very carefully with Mr. Taft and Mr. Shouts, and we laid the plan in its general features before Mr. Root. My conclusion is that it combines the maximum of disadvantage with the minimum of disadvantage. Under it a premium will be put upon the speedy and economical construction of the canal, and a penalty imposed on delay and waste. The plan as promulgated is tentative; doubtless it will have to be changed in some respects before we can come to a satisfactory agreement with responsible contractors—perhaps even after the bids have been received; and of course it is possible that we can not come to a agreement, in which case the government will do the work itself. Meanwhile the work on the lathmus is progressing steadily and without any let up.

Single Commissioner Desired.

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Single Commissioner Desired.

A seven-headed commission is of course a clumsy executive instrument. We should have but one commissioner, with such heads of departments and other officers under him as we may find necessary. We should be expressly permitted to employ the best engineers.

I accompany this paper with a map showing substantially what the canal will be like when it is finished. When the Culebra cut has been made and the dams built (if they are huilt as at present proposed there will then be at both the Pacific and Atlantic ends of the canal two great fresh-water lakes, connected by a broad channel running at the bottom of a ravine, across the backbone of the Western Hemisphere. Those best informed believe that the work will be completed in about eight years; but it is never safe to prophesy about such a work as this, especially in the tropics.

Confident of Ultimate Success.

Confident of Ultimate Success.

Confident of Ultimate Success.

Of the aucress of the enterprise I am as well convinced as one can be of any enterprise that is human. It is a stupendous work upon which our fellow countrymen are enuaged down there on the isthmus, and while we should hold them to a strict accountability for the way in which they perform it, we should recognize, with frank generosity, the epic nature of the task upon which they are engaged and its world-wide importance. They are doing something which will redoud immeasurably to the credit of America, which will benefit all the world, and which will benefit all the world, and which will benefit all the world, and which will benefit all the recome. Under Mr. Shonts and Mr. Stevens and Dr. Gorgas this work has started with every onen of good fortune. They and their worthy associates, from the highest to the lowest are entitled to the same credit that we would give to the picked men of a victorious army for this conquest of peace will, in its great and far-reaching effect should as among the very greatest conquests, whether of peace of of war, which have ever been wan by any of the peoples of mankind. A hadge is to be given to every American citizen who for a specified time has taken part in this work; for participation in it will hereafter be held to reflect honer upon the man participation in it will hereafter be held to reflect honer upon the man participation in it will hereafter be held to reflect honer upon the man participation in it will hereafter be held to reflect honer upon the man participation in it will hereafter be held to reflect honer upon the man participation in it will hereafter be held to reflect honer upon the man participation in the will hereafter be held to reflect honer upon the man participation in the will hereafter be held to reflect honer upon the man participation in the will have every known in the same spirit and will the same efficiency that the men of the army and them in every way to bring their great work to a triumonant conjustion.

The White Ho

COMPOSES MUSIC AT FIVE.

NESSEE BOY.

Melvin Hesselberg Writes Music and Stories-Is Extremely Critical and Will Allow No Changes in

Nashville, Tenn.-A new child won-Melvyn Edouard Hesselberg, who is just turning five years old, already composes music and writes stories. Hesselberg is a name well known in Nashville, for the child's father Is Edouard Hesselberg, a musician of inernational fame.

Mr. Hesselberg is a Russian, a grandnephew of Davidoff, the great 'cellist. He, too, was precocious, for as a student in Moscow he was permitted to appear at the famous Philharmonic concerts, being the only student thus honored. When he graduated he received a gold modal, the only one tendered to any member of his class, and performed Lizzt's famous "Danse Macabre" before a distinguished audience. Hesselberg then studied the plane with Rubinstein.

Mrs. Hesselberg also is an artist and a writer, who makes a specialty of children's stories in the kindergarten form. From this artistic parentage it is easy to see where the youngster gets his talent.

Little Hesselberg was born with melody in his soul. At the age of three and one-half years he began humming little melodies which seemed to the musical ear of the father to have originality. He questioned the boy and asked where he had heard them. "I just made it up," was the boyish

answer

Thinking the melody had merely een an accidental hitting of notes that went well together, Mr. Hesselberg paid no further attention until he began observing that the boy remembered every note of each melody as he sang it the first time, and that he cept them all separate and distinct in mind and never confused them or an them together.

Then little Hesselberg started giving names to his melodies.

ead or write, but he dictates the detect the least error or deception. unes to his father.

Like all children, he is very critical. ly made alterations to see if Melvyn would detect them. In every case the result has been the same. The boy at numerous beauty shows held over has protested instantly and com- the state. At every exhibit of pretty pelled the air to be played as he had children he is invariably the winner. irst written it.

show originality. This could hardly against hundreds of children.

REMARKABLE GIFTS OF A TEN- | be otherwise, for Melvyn is too young to have observed and studied the ideas of others, and that which he produces must necessarily come entirely from himself.

His stories are produced in a similar manner. He gets an idea for a tale, thinks it over, and then dictates it to his mother. Afterward she reads it to him, and he expresses every satisfacder has been discovered in this city. tion, provided it is identical with the way he first called it off, but he al-



MELVYN HESSELBERG. (Tennessee Child Who Composes Music and Stories.)

ways complains if any change has been made

All the faults of his English and the immaturity of his ideas must be re-From this time on, Melvyn has been | tained, for his wonderful memory is a composing. He is still too young to veritable Sherlock Holmes ready to

Melvyn does not look like a genius or a child phenomenon. There is nothand will not allow a note of what he ing of the priggish, precocious child invents to be changed. His father has wonder about him. He is fat and frequently experimented, and purpose- healthy, in fact a famous boy beauty.

His beautiful features and perfect complexion have made him the winner Lately at the Georgia state fair he Most of the melodies are good and took first prize in a competition

WEBB A LOW CHURCHMAN.

New Bishop of Milwaukee Diocese to dained to the deaconate by the bishop Dispense with Showy Service.

BISHOP W. W. WEBB Wisconsin Prelate Opposed to High Church Rites.)

Milwaukee.-The elevation of Bishop oadjutor Walter W. Webb to the erd of the Milwaukee diocese means certain, though unostentations step ackward from the course toward the idoption in the west of the high church ites so long advocated by the late Bishop Nicholson.

With the crowning of Bishop Webb vill come the first of the lower church eremonies. Bishop Nicholson had ong been, with Bishop Grafton, of Fond du Lac, a devotee of the high church crusade. Bishop Grafton even worked for an alliance with the Greek Catholic church. Bishop Nicholson was not quite so radical, but he was sufficiently advanced to have ceremonies in his cathedral so formal that, but for the language in which the service was intoned, there would be little difference from the Roman Catholic athedral.

Bishop Webb did not sympathize with this movement. His idea is a more missionary spirit m the churcha getting down to the common people ather than an appeal to the wealthier olk by an extravagance in ritual and eremony.

Bishop Webb was Philadelphia born, Berkeley Divinity school. He was or- 30 per cent.

of New Hampshire, and later elevated to the priesthood by the bishop of

He had hoped to work in the Maine woods, but his old friends in Philadel phia called him back and he became assistant at the Church of the Evangelists, Philadelphia, and later became rector of St. Elizabeth's. In 1902 he came west as a teacher at Nashotah seminary. A year ago he was made bishop coadjutor against the vote of the clergy with the support of the low churchmen in the latty. Now he is advanced to charge of the diocese

RETREAT OF CROWN PRINCESS. Marie of Roumania Has Nest-House in a Tree.

London.-Princess Marie of Roumania, wife of the crown prince of Roumania, has probably the most delightful retreat of any member of any .uropean royal family. It is a nest house built high up among the branches of tall fir trees and in it the princess spent the greater part of the past summer.

The nest is a miniature cottage, built for her by the king of Roumania



HOME OF PRINCESS IN A TREE.

at Sinaia. A small staircase lends access. Two rooms and a kitchen comprise the nest and they are furnished in a delightfully simple and elegant way.

Less Rain in Ecuador.

Since 1878 to the present time nearly every year has seen a continued and steady decline in the amount of rainand graduated from the University of fall in Ecuador. No exact statistics Pennsylvania. Then he went to New are obtainable, but there is said to be England, first as a student at Trinity little reason to doubt that the decline college, Hartford, Conn.; then to the within the period cited is upward of